

NOTICE OF RULE MAKING

Arkansas Department of Human Services

Pursuant to Arkansas Code Ann. 20-48-105, the Division of Developmental Disabilities, Department of Human Services proposes a new rule entitled “DDS Policy 1089, Criteria for Expansion of DDS Services.” Ark Code 20-48-105 specifies that DDS shall grant existing nonprofit community programs licensed by DDS an opportunity to make application to expand their service base to unserved or underserved areas or shall be granted an opportunity to make application to offer new services in their existing services area. In addition, before licensing new service providers in the area DDS must determine in writing that existing service providers are not qualified or are unable or unwilling to extend services to unserved or underserved areas to provide new or expanded services. In order to facilitate this rule, DDS must establish definitions of unserved and underserved areas and provide the process under which DDS will approve expansion of current providers into new service delivery areas, or to issue licenses to new providers. The rule is necessary to establish the aforementioned definitions and process/procedures.

Copies of the rule may be viewed at any of the local Department of Human Services county offices or by writing to the DHS Division of Developmental Disabilities Services, Quality Assurance Section, P.O. Box 1437, Slot N501, Little Rock, AR 72203-1437, Attention: Pam Fowler. All comments must be submitted in writing within 30 days following the date of the initial newspaper notice.

The Department of Human Services, Office of Finance and Administration, is in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act and is operated, managed, and delivers services without regard to age, religion, disability, political affiliation, veteran status, sex, race, color, or national origin.

Alternate formats (large print, audio tapes, etc.) will be provided upon request.

James C. Green, Director
Division of Developmental Disabilities

Date